

Message Text

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21

ACTION IO-11

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CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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R 181200Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4263

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS T

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAWC

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KAHTMANDU

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USUN NEW YORK 434

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 0617

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, AO, SF

SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

REF: USUN 581

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1. I BELIEVE MY MEETING WITH FOREIGN OFFICE DIRECTOR GENERAL BASNAYAKE RE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT WAS PRODUCTIVE AND UNDERScores FACT WE HAVE USEFUL ASSET IN MODERATE SRI LANKA GOVT. FURTHERMORE, WITH GSL AS CHAIRMAN OF SUMMIT MEETINGS, IT SHOULD BE ABLE TO USE ITS POSITION TO GIVE ORDERLY DIRECTION TO THE CONFERENCE AND TO EFFECT OUTCOME OF KEY ISSUES, SUCH AS DETERMINATION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT CONSENSUSES EXIST.

2. DESPITE THESE ADVANTAGES, CONVERSATION WITH BASNAYAKE HAS ALSO REINFORCED MY EARLIER VIEW THAT, WHILE WE CAN ANTICIPATE CONTINUED CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE WITH SRI LANKA, WE SHOULD NOT OVERESTIMATE GSL'S ABILITY OR WILLINGNESS TO INFLUENCE EVENTS OF PRIMARY CONCERN TO US (75 COLOMBO 1686). SRI LANKA REMAINS A SMALL POOR ISLAND IN THE 85-MEMBER NON-ALIGNED WORLD AND IT WILL CONTINUE TO BOB, WEAVE, AND CUK AS REQUIRED TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH THE NON-ALIGNED HEAVY-WEIGHTS. IT IS ALREADY BEHOLDEN TO A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES (INCLUDING ALGIERS, IRAQ AND NORTH KOREA) FOR HELP IN UNDERWRITING THE COSTS OF THE SUMMIT AND ITS DIPLOMATIC RESOURCES ARE LIMITED. IT HAS, FOR EXAMPLE, ONLY ONE RESIDENT EMBASSY IN BLACK AFRICA (NAIROBI) AND NONE IN LATIN AMERICA.

3. WITH THESE REALITIES IN MIND, IN PLANNING ITS STRATEGY AND TACTICS OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS, THE DEPT MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER SOME OF THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS:

A. AS A GENERAL PROPOSITION, DURING EARLY PREPARATORY PERIOD, WE SHOULD CONCENTRATE OUR ATTENTION IN NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, AND CAPITALS ON THE COUNTRIES WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF COORDINATING GROUP (NACG) IN NEW YORK, BECAUSE THIS GROUP IS DE FACTO PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE SUMMIT. THESE EFFORTS, OF COURSE, SHOULD BE REINFORCED AS REQUIRED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETINGS OF THE 17 FOREIGN MINISTERS WHO COMPRISE THE THE NON-ALIGNED BUREAU. WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT ALGERIA

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WILL REMAIN CHAIRMAN OF THE NACG AND BUREAU MEETINGS UNTIL THE CHAIRMANSHIP PASSES TO SRI LANKA IN COLOMBO IN AUGUST.

B. WE SHOULD DEVELOP AS MUCH INFO AS POSSIBLE REGARDING THE STATUS AND CONTENT OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION AS WELL AS THE VARIOUS RESOLUTIONS AND BE PREPARED TO WEIGH IN EARLY IF WE LEARN THAT THEY RUN COUNTER TO

BASIC US INTERESTS.

C. WITH REGARD TO THE THREE POLITICAL ISSUES WHICH WE NOW CONSIDER OF HIGHEST PRIORITY -- KOREA, PUERTO RICO AND THE MIDDLE EAST -- I SUGGEST THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO EARLY DEMARCHES, SIMILAR TO MY APPROACH TO BASNAYAF, TO SOME OR ALL OTHER 16 MEMBERS OF THE NACG EXCEPT CUBA. DEPENDING UPON RESULT OF THESE DEMARCHES WE CAN THEN DETERMINE WHAT TACTICS WE SHOULD USE FOR DEALING WITH OTHER NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES.

D. RE KOREA, WE SHOULD DECIDE HOW TO RESPOND TO BASNAYAF'S REQUEST THAT WE PROVIDE MORE SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS TO HELP MODERATES HANDLE THIS QUESTION. THIS MIGHT INCLUDE RESOLUTION LANGUAGE ON KOREA WITH WHICH WE COULD LIVE. WE MIGHT ALSO WANT TO CONSIDER PROVIDING OUR SPECIFIC VIEWS ON RESOLUTION LANGUAGE ON MIDDLE EAST, AS SUGGESTED BY SRI LANKA EMBASSY OFFICER DHANAPALA IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH DEPT (STATE 35596 NOTAL).

E. WE SHOULD BUILD ON SRI LANKA'S AND YUGOSLAVIA'S DESIRE TO HEAD-OFF PUERTO RICO ISSUE BY ENCOURAGING OTHER COUNTRIES TO OPPOSE ITS CONSIDERATION. FACT THAT PUERTO RICO NOT NOW SPECIFICALLY AN AGENDA ITEM, DOES NOT PRECLUDE ITS BEING RAISED AT LAST MINUTE UNDER HEADING OF "OTHER COLONIAL SITUATIONS" OR LATIN AMERICAN ISSUES IN DRAFT AGENDA (USUN 581) IF SUPPORT FOR PUERTO RICO RESOLUTION DEVELOPS, WE SHOULD ASK THAT SPECIFIC RESERVATIONS BE ENTERED BECAUSE, OTHERWISE, EFFORTS UNDOUBTEDLY WILL BE MADE TO RAILROAD RESOLUTION THROUGH ON CONSENSUS BASIS.
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WE MUST, OF COURSE, ASSUME THAT THE CUBANS, ASSISTED BY THEIR ALLIES, WILL CONTINUE TO ASSERT STRONG EFFORTS FOR CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE, EITHER IN FORM OF RESOLUTION OR DECLARATION LANGUAGE. FONOFF TELLS US THAT CUBA, WHICH OPENED EMBASSY IN COLOMBO LAST YEAR, HAS REQUESTED ACCOMMODATIONS FOR 100 MEMBER DELEGATION, AND THERE IS SPECULATION THAT HAVANA WILL BE SELECTED AS VENUE FOR NEXT SUMMIT.

F. WE ALSO BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL FOR RELEVANT EMBASSIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN NACG MEMBER COUNTRIES TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE DEPT AND USUN, AND OTHER POSTS LATERALLY, WITH MAXIMUM INFO AND TACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

ON ATTITUDES OF INPP GOVTS, INCOUDING WHO
ARE PEDDLERS AND PUSHERS OF UNHELPFUL RESOLUTIONS, AND
WHO INFLUENCES WHO, ETC. (STATE 37591, JUST RECEIVED, POINTS
IN THIS DIRECTION.)

4. ALL OF THE FOREGOING IS SIMPLY TO SUGGEST THAT
WITH EXPERIENCE OF ALGIERS AND LIMA BEHIND US, WITH
CREATION OF NEW OFFICE OF MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS, AND
WITH THE EXERCISE OF SOME DEFT AND DEXTEROUS
DIPLOMACY, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO USE MONTHS AHEADTO
MAXIMUM ADVANTAGE.
VAN HOLLEN

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